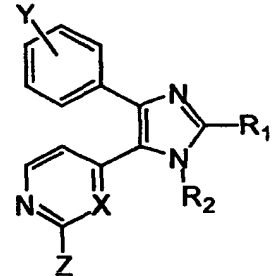


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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup> : C07D 401/04, 403/04, A61K 31/44, 31/505</p>	<p>A1</p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 00/06563</b> (43) International Publication Date: 10 February 2000 (10.02.00)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/16996 (22) International Filing Date: 27 July 1999 (27.07.99) (30) Priority Data: 60/095,051 31 July 1998 (31.07.98) US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MERCK &amp; CO., INC. [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): CLAIBORNE, Christopher, F. [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065 (US). CLAREMON, David, A. [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065 (US). LIVERTON, Nigel, J. [GB/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065 (US). (74) Common Representative: MERCK &amp; CO., INC.; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065 (US).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CN, CU, CZ, EE, GD, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KG, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LT, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, RU, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i></p>
<p>(54) Title: SUBSTITUTED IMIDAZOLES HAVING CYTOKINE INHIBITORY ACTIVITY (57) Abstract There are disclosed compounds of formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof which may be useful for the treatment of cytokine mediated diseases such as arthritis.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>(I)</p> </div>		

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TITLE OF THE INVENTIONSUBSTITUTED IMIDAZOLES HAVING CYTOKINE INHIBITORY  
ACTIVITY5 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to substituted imidazole compounds which have cytokine inhibitory activity. Cytokine mediated diseases and cytokine inhibition, suppression and antagonism are used in the context of diseases or conditions in which excessive or  
10 unregulated production or activity of one or more cytokines occurs. Examples of cytokines which are effected typically include Interleukin-1 (IL-1), Interleukin-6 (IL-6), Interleukin-8 (IL-8) and Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF).

Interleukin-1 (IL-1) and Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF) are  
15 produced by a variety of cells which are involved in immunoregulation and other physiological conditions.

There are many disease states in which IL-1 is implicated. Examples are rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, endotoxemia, toxic shock syndrome, acute and chronic inflammatory diseases, such as  
20 the inflammatory reaction induced by endotoxin or inflammatory bowel disease; tuberculosis, atherosclerosis, muscle degeneration, cachexia, psoriatic arthritis, Reiter's syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis, gout, traumatic arthritis, rubella arthritis and acute synovitis. Recent evidence also links IL-1 activity to diabetes.

Interleukin-1 has been demonstrated to mediate a variety of biological activities thought to be important in immunoregulation and other physiological conditions. [See, e.g., Dinarello et al., Rev. Infect. Disease, 6, 51 (1984)]. The known biological activities of IL-1 include the activation of T helper cells, induction of fever, stimulation of  
30 prostaglandin or collagenase production, neutrophil chemotaxis, induction of acute phase proteins and the suppression of plasma iron levels.

Excessive or unregulated tumor necrosis factor (TNF) production or activity has been implicated in mediating or exacerbating rheumatoid arthritis, rheumatoid spondylitis, osteoarthritis, gouty  
35 arthritis, and other arthritic conditions, sepsis, septic shock, endotoxic

shock, gram negative sepsis, toxic shock syndrome, adult respiratory distress syndrome, cerebral malaria, chronic pulmonary inflammatory disease, silicosis, pulmonary sarcosis, bone resorption diseases, reperfusion injury, graft v. host rejection, allograft rejections, fever and myalgia due to infection, cachexia secondary to infection or malignancy, 5 cachexia secondary to acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), AIDS related complex (ARC), keloid formation, scar tissue formation, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis and pyresis.

Monokines, such as TNF, have also been shown to activate 10 HIV replication in monocytes and/or macrophages [See Poli, *et al.*, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 87:782-784 (1990)], therefore, inhibition of monokine production or activity aids in limiting HIV progression. TNF has been implicated in various roles with other viral infections, such as the cytomegalovirus (CMV), influenza virus and the herpes virus.

15 Interleukin-6 (IL-6) is a cytokine effecting the immune system and hematopoiesis. It is produced by several mammalian cell types in response to agents such as IL-1, and is correlated with disease states such as angiofollicular lymphoid hyperplasia.

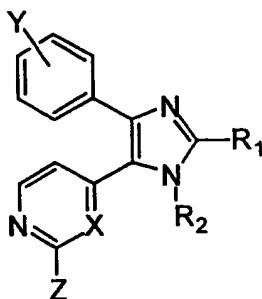
Interleukin-8 (IL-8) is a chemotactic factor first identified 20 and characterized in 1987. Many different names have been applied to IL-8, such as neutrophil attractant/activation protein-1 (NAP-1), monocyte derived neutrophil chemotactic factor (MDNCF), neutrophil activating factor (NAF), and T-cell lymphocyte chemotactic factor. Like IL-1, IL-8 is produced by several cell types, including mononuclear cells, 25 fibroblasts, endothelial cells and ketainocytes. Its production is induced by IL-1, TNF and by lipopolysaccharide (LPS). IL-8 stimulates a number of cellular functions *in vitro*. It is a chemoattractant for neutrophils, T-lymphocytes and basophils. It induces histamine release from basophils. It causes lysozomal enzyme release and respiratory burst from neutrophils, and it has been shown to increase the surface expression of 30 Mac-1 (CD11b/CD 18) on neutrophils without *de novo* protein synthesis.

There remains a need for compounds which are useful in treating cytokine mediated diseases, and as such, inhibit, suppress or

antagonize the production or activity of cytokines such as IL-1, IL-6, IL-8 and TNF.

# SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

5                   The present invention relates to a compound represented by formula I:



wherein

- 10   R<sub>1</sub> is           C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;  
      R<sub>2</sub> is           H, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl, OC<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or C(O)C<sub>1-6</sub>  
      alkyl;  
      R<sub>3</sub> is           H, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl, OC<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or C(O)C<sub>1-6</sub>  
      alkyl,                 or aralkyl;  
  15   X is           C or N;  
      Y is           H, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, CN or CF<sub>3</sub>;  
      Z is           NHR<sub>3</sub> or F;

20                   or a pharmaceutically acceptable addition salt and/or hydrate thereof,  
                     or where applicable, a geometric or optical isomer or racemic mixture  
                     thereof.

                    A pharmaceutical composition is also included in the  
                     invention described herein, which is comprised of a compound of formula I  
                     as defined above in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable  
  25   carrier.

                    Also included in the invention is a method of treating a  
                     cytokine mediated disease in a mammal, comprising administering

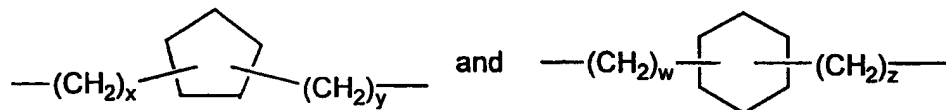
to a mammalian patient in need of such treatment an amount of a compound of formula I which is effective to treat said cytokine mediated disease.

## 5 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The invention is described herein in detail using the terms defined below unless otherwise specified.

The term "alkyl" refers to a monovalent alkane (hydrocarbon) derived radical containing from 1 to 15 carbon atoms unless otherwise  
10 defined. It may be straight, branched or cyclic. Preferred straight or branched alkyl groups include methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl and t-butyl. Preferred cycloalkyl groups include cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl.

Alkyl also includes a straight or branched alkyl group which contains or is interrupted by a cycloalkylene portion. Examples include  
15 the following:



wherein:

x and y = from 0-10; and w and z = from 0-9.

The alkylene and monovalent alkyl portion(s) of the alkyl  
20 group can be attached at any available point of attachment to the cycloalkylene portion.

When substituted alkyl is present, this refers to a straight, branched or cyclic alkyl group as defined above, substituted with 1-3 groups as defined with respect to each variable.

The term "alkenyl" refers to a hydrocarbon radical straight,  
25 branched or cyclic containing from 2 to 15 carbon atoms and at least one carbon to carbon double bond. Preferably one carbon to carbon double bond is present, and up to four non-aromatic (non-resonating) carbon-carbon double bonds may be present. Preferred alkenyl groups include  
30 ethenyl, propenyl, butenyl and cyclohexenyl. As described above with respect to alkyl, the straight, branched or cyclic portion of the alkenyl

group may contain double bonds and may be substituted when a substituted alkenyl group is provided.

Aryl refers to aromatic rings e.g., phenyl, substituted phenyl and like groups as well as rings which are fused, e.g., naphthyl and the like. Aryl thus contains at least one ring having at least 6 atoms, with up to two such rings being present, containing up to 10 atoms therein, with alternating (resonating) double bonds between adjacent carbon atoms. The preferred aryl groups are phenyl and naphthyl. Aryl groups may likewise be substituted as defined below. Preferred substituted aryls include phenyl and naphthyl substituted with one or two groups.

Substituted alkyl and aryl, and the substituted portions of aralkyl, aralkoxy and like groups are substituted with from 1-3 groups selected from the group consisting of: halo, hydroxy, cyano, acyl, acylamino, aralkoxy, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, alkylsulfonylamino, arylsulfonylamino, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkyl, alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkoxy, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, and sulfonylamino.

Aralkyl refers to the group -C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylaryl.

Halo means Cl, F, Br and I selected on an independent basis.

As used herein, the term "composition" is intended to encompass a product comprising the specified ingredients in the specified amounts, as well as any product which results, directly or indirectly, from combination of the specified ingredients in the specified amounts.

The term "TNF mediated disease or disease state" refers to disease states in which TNF plays a role, either by production or increased activity levels of TNF itself, or by causing another monokine to be released, such as but not limited to IL-1 or IL-6. A disease state in which IL-1, for instance is a major component, and whose production or action, is exacerbated or secreted in response to TNF, would therefore be considered a disease state mediated by TNF.

The term "cytokine" as used herein means any secreted polypeptide that affects the functions of cells and is a molecule which modulates interactions between cells in the immune, inflammatory or hematopoietic response. A cytokine includes, but is not limited to,

monokines and lymphokines regardless of which cells produce them. Examples of cytokines include, but are not limited to, Interleukin-1 (IL-1), Interleukin-6 (IL-6), Interleukin-8 (IL-8), Tumor Necrosis Factor-alpha (TNF-a) and Tumor Necrosis Factor-beta (TNF-b).

5                   By the term "cytokine interfering or cytokine suppressive amount" is mean an effective amount of a compound of formula I which will cause a decrease in the *in vivo* activity or level of the cytokine to normal or sub-normal levels, when given to the patient for the prophylaxis or therapeutic treatment of a disease state which  
10 is exacerbated by, or caused by, excessive or unregulated cytokine production or activity.

The compounds of the present invention may contain one or more asymmetric carbon atoms and may exist in racemic and optically active forms. All are within the scope of the present invention.

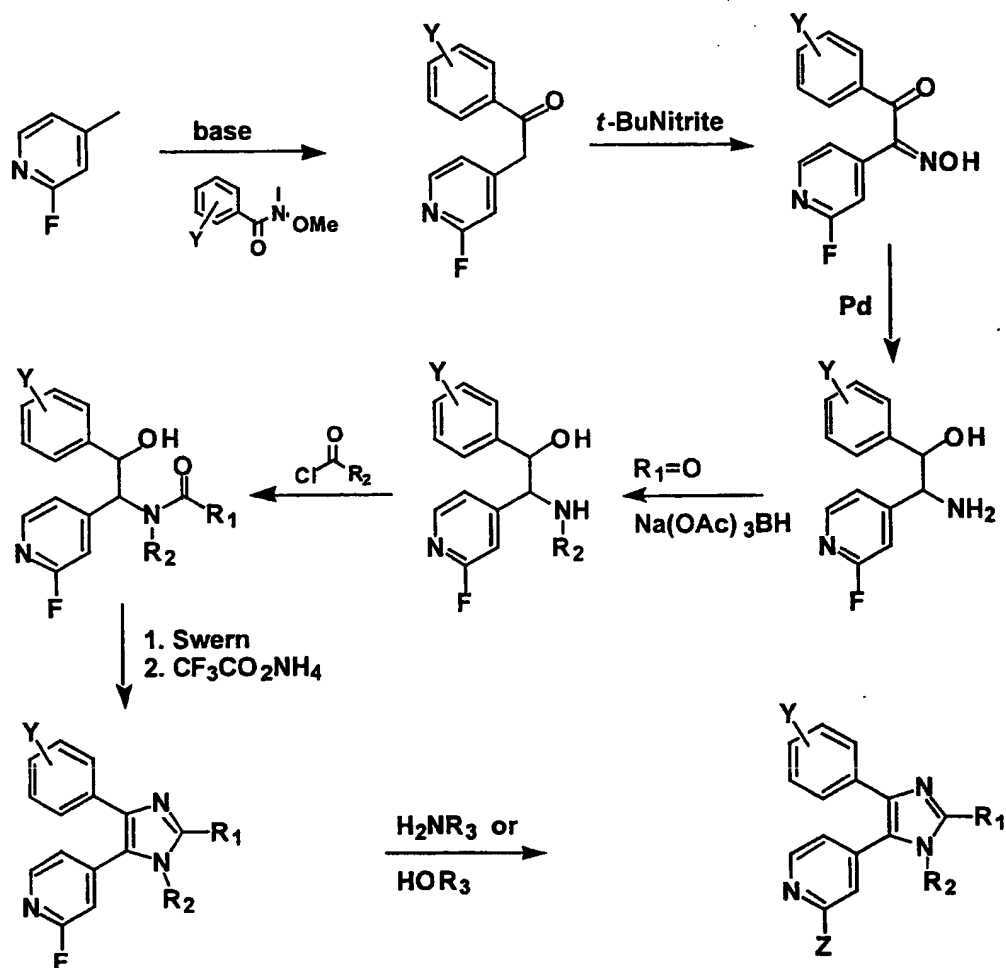
15                   One subset of compounds of the present invention which is of interest relates to compounds of formula I wherein R<sub>2</sub> is C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl with cyclopentyl a particularly preferred cycloalkyl group.

Representative examples of compounds of the present invention include the following species:

20                   1-(S)-phenyl-N-{4-[3-cyclopentyl-2-methyl-5-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-3H-imidazol-4-yl]-pyridin-2-yl}-ethylamine;  
as well as pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

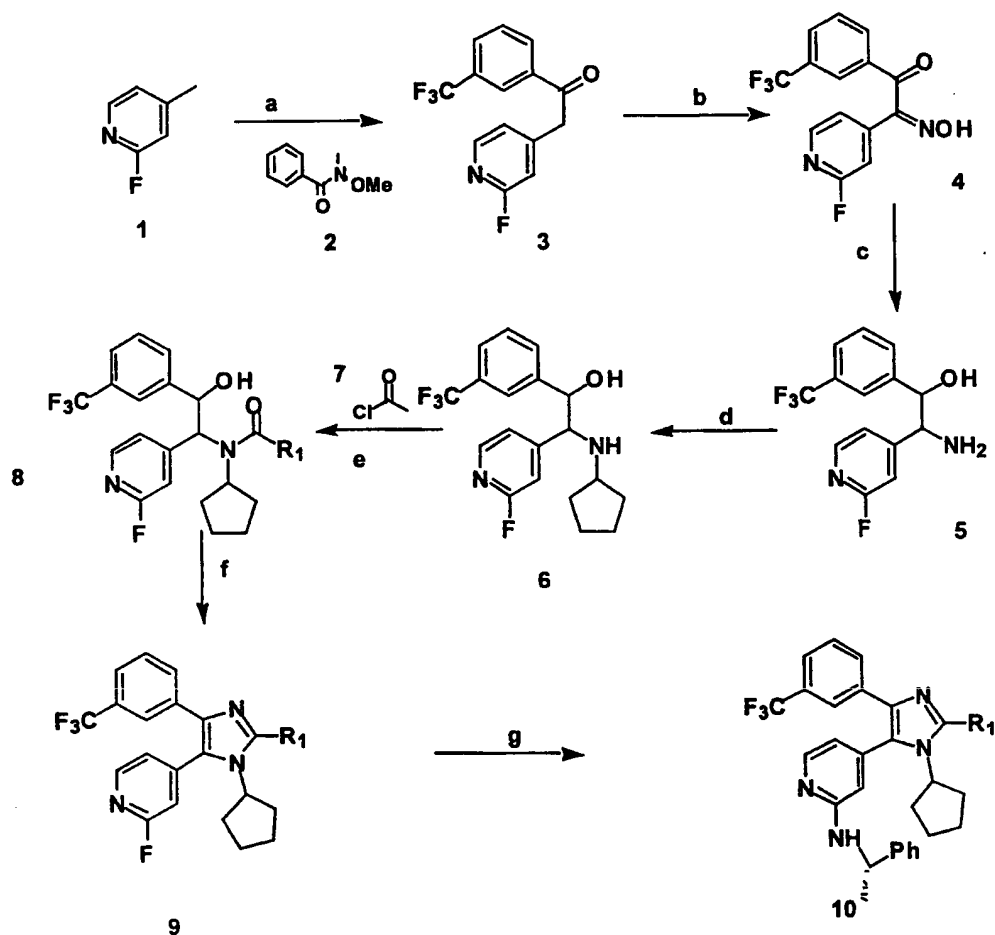
25                   The compounds of the present invention are prepared generally by procedures illustrated in the accompanying scheme.





In particular, a preferred compound of the invention is  
 5 prepared as illustrated below in scheme 1.

## Reaction Scheme 1



## Reagents and Conditions:

- a) *n*-BuLi (1.05 equiv.), 1, THF at -78 °C, then 2 (80%);
- b) *t*-BuNitrite, HCl, 3, ethanol at -50 °C for 1 hr, then 2 hrs at 23 °C (95%);
- c) 10% Pd / C (30% by wt. of substrate), 4, H<sub>2</sub> (1 atm) in ethanol for 12 hrs (91%);
- d) 5, Na(OAc)3BH (2.0 equiv.), cyclopentanone (1.5 equiv.) in 1,2 dichloroethane at 25 °C for 15 hrs. (92%);
- e) 6 (1.0 equiv.), DIPEA (2.0 equiv.) in methylene chloride at -10 °C, 7 (1.1 equiv.), 2 hrs. (95%);
- f) DMSO (3 equiv.) and oxalyl chloride (2.5 equiv.) in methylene chloride at -78 °C, then 8. After 2 hrs triethylamine (5.0 equiv.) and warm to 23 °C; Unpurified ketone from 8 in ammonium trifluoroacetate (as solvent) at 150 °C for 5 min. (53%);
- g) 9 in (S)-(-)-α-methylbenzylamine (10 equiv.) at 150 °C for 15 hrs (76%).

The compounds of the present invention are useful

in various pharmaceutically acceptable salt forms. The term "pharmaceutically acceptable salt" refers to those salt forms which would be apparent to the pharmaceutical chemist. i.e., those which are substantially non-toxic and which provide the desired pharmacokinetic properties, palatability, absorption, distribution, metabolism or excretion. Other factors, more practical in nature, which are also important in the selection, are cost of the raw materials, ease of crystallization, yield, stability, hygroscopicity and flowability of the resulting bulk drug. Conveniently, pharmaceutical compositions may be prepared from the active ingredients in combination with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

The pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the compounds of formula I include conventional non-toxic salts or quarternary ammonium salts of the compounds of formula I formed e.g. from non-toxic inorganic or organic acids. For example, non-toxic salts include those derived from inorganic acids such as hydrochloric, hydrobromic, sulfuric, sulfamic, phosphoric, nitric and the like; and the salts prepared from organic acids such as acetic, propionic, succinic, glycolic, stearic, lactic, malic, tartaric, citric, ascorbic, pamoic, sulfanilic, 2-acetoxybenzoic, fumaric, toluenesulfonic, methanesulfonic, ethane disulfonic, oxalic, isethionic, trifluoroacetic and the like.

The pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the present invention can be synthesized by conventional chemical methods. Generally, the salts are prepared by reacting the free base or acid with stoichiometric amounts or with an excess of the desired salt-forming inorganic or organic acid or base, in a suitable solvent or solvent combination.

The compounds of the present invention may have asymmetric centers and occur as racemates, racemic mixtures, and as individual diastereomers. All such isomers, including optical isomers, being included in the present invention.

The invention described herein also includes a pharmaceutical composition which is comprised of a compound as

described herein in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

The invention described herein also includes a method of treating a cytokine mediated disease in a mammal, comprising  
5 administering to a mammalian patient in need of such treatment an amount of a compound as described herein in an amount which is effective to treat said cytokine mediated disease.

Of particular interest is a method of treating inflammation in a mammalian patient in need of such treatment, which is comprised of  
10 administering to said patient an anti-inflammatory effective amount of a compound as described herein.

Another method which is of particular interest is a method of treating a cytokine mediated disease as described herein wherein the disease is osteoporosis.

15 Another method which is of particular interest is a method of treating a cytokine mediated disease as described herein wherein the disease is rheumatoid arthritis or osteoarthritis.

Another method which is of particular interest is a method of treating a cytokine mediated disease as described herein wherein the  
20 disease is non-osteoporotic bone resorption.

Yet another method which is of particular interest is a method of treating a cytokine mediated disease as described herein wherein the disease is Crohn's disease.

This invention also relates to a method of inhibiting a  
25 cytokine or cytokines in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of a compound of formula I to inhibit said cytokine or cytokines, down to normal levels, or in some cases to subnormal levels, so as to ameliorate, prevent or treat the disease state.

30 The compounds of formula 1 can be used in the prophylactic or therapeutic treatment of disease states in mammals which are exacerbated or caused by excessive or unregulated cytokines, more specifically IL-1, IL-6, IL-8 or TNF.

Because the compounds of formula I inhibit cytokines, such as IL-1, IL-6, IL-8 and TNF, the compounds are useful for treating diseases in which cytokine presence or activity is implicated, such as rheumatoid arthritis, rheumatoid spondylitis, osteoarthritis, gouty  
5 arthritis and other arthritic conditions.

The compounds of formula I are also useful to treat other disease states mediated by excessive or unregulated TNF production or activity. Such diseases include, but are not limited to sepsis, septic shock, endotoxic shock, gram negative sepsis, toxic shock syndrome, adult  
10 respiratory distress syndrome, cerebral malaria, chronic pulmonary inflammatory disease, silicosis, pulmonary sarcoidosis, bone resorption diseases, such as osteoporosis, reperfusion injury, graft v. host rejection, allograft rejection, fever, myalgia due to infection, cachexia secondary to infection or malignancy, cachexia secondary to  
15 acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), AIDS, ARC (AIDs related complex), keloid formation, scar tissue formation, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, pyresis, AIDS and other viral infections, such as cytomegalovirus (CMV), influenza virus, and the herpes family of viruses such as Herpes Zoster or Simplex I and II.

20 The compounds of formula I are also useful topically in the treatment of inflammation such as in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, rheumatoid spondylitis, osteoarthritis, gouty arthritis and other arthritic conditions; inflamed joints, eczema, psoriasis or other inflammatory skin conditions such as sunburn; inflammatory eye  
25 conditions including conjunctivitis; pyresis, pain and other conditions associated with inflammation.

The compounds of formula I are also useful in treating diseases characterized by excessive IL-8 activity. These disease states include psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease, asthma, cardiac and renal  
30 reperfusion injury, adult respiratory distress syndrome, thrombosis and glomerulonephritis.

The invention thus includes a method of treating psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease, asthma, cardiac and renal reperfusion injury, adult respiratory distress syndrome, thrombosis and

glomerulonephritis, in a mammal in need of such treatment, which comprises administering to said mammal a compound of formula I in an amount which is effective for treating said disease or condition.

When administered to a patient for the treatment of a  
5 disease in which a cytokine or cytokines are implicated, the dosage used can be varied depending upon the type of disease, the age and general condition of the patient, the particular compound administered, the presence or level of toxicity or adverse effects experienced with the drug, and other factors. A representative example of a suitable dosage range is  
10 from as low as about 0.01 mg/kg to as high as about 100 mg/kg. However, the dosage administered is generally left to the discretion of the physician.

The methods of treatment are preferably carried out by delivering the compound of formula I parenterally. The term  
15 'parenteral' as used herein includes intravenous, intramuscular, or intraperitoneal administration. The subcutaneous and intramuscular forms of parenteral administration are generally preferred. The instant invention can also be carried out by delivering the compound of formula I subcutaneously, intranasally, intrarectally, transdermally or  
20 intravaginally.

The compounds of formula I may also be administered by inhalation. By 'inhalation' is meant intranasal and oral inhalation administration. Appropriate dosage forms for such administration, such as an aerosol formulation or a metered dose inhaler, may be prepared by  
25 convention techniques.

The invention also relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula I and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. The compounds of formula I may also be included in pharmaceutical compositions in combination with a second  
30 therapeutically active compound.

The pharmaceutical carrier employed may be, for example, either a solid, liquid or gas. Examples of solid carriers include lactose, terra alba, sucrose, talc, gelatin, agar, pectin, acacia, magnesium stearate, stearic acid and the like. Examples of liquid carriers are syrup, peanut

oil, olive oil, water and the like. Examples of gaseous carriers include carbon dioxide and nitrogen.

Similarly, the carrier or diluent may include time delay material well known in the art, such as glyceryl monostearate or glyceryl distearate, alone or with a wax.

A wide variety of pharmaceutical dosage forms can be employed. If a solid dosage is used for oral administration, the preparation can be in the form of a tablet, hard gelatin capsule, troche or lozenge. The amount of solid carrier will vary widely, but generally will be from about 0.025 mg to about 1 g. When a liquid dosage form is desired for oral administration, the preparation is typically in the form of a syrup, emulsion, soft gelatin capsule, suspension or solution. When a parenteral dosage form is to be employed, the drug may be in solid or liquid form, and may be formulated for administration directly or may be suitable for reconstitution.

Topical dosage forms are also included. Examples of topical dosage forms are solids, liquids and semi-solids. Solids would include dusting powders, poultices and the like. Liquids include solutions, suspensions and emulsions. Semi-solids include creams, ointments, gels and the like.

The amount of a compound of formula I used topically will, of course, vary with the compound chosen, the nature and severity of the condition, and can be varied in accordance with the discretion of the physician. A representative, topical, dose of a compound of formula I is from as low as about 0.01 mg to as high as about 2.0 g, administered one to four, preferably one to two times daily.

The active ingredient may comprise, for topical administration, from about 0.001% to about 10% w/w.

Drops according to the present invention may comprise sterile or non-sterile aqueous or oil solutions or suspensions, and may be prepared by dissolving the active ingredient in a suitable aqueous solution, optionally including a bactericidal and/or fungicidal agent and/or any other suitable preservative, and optionally including a surface active agent. The resulting solution may then be clarified by filtration,

transferred to a suitable container which is then sealed and sterilized by autoclaving or maintaining at 98-100°C for half an hour. Alternatively, the solution may be sterilized by filtration and transferred to the container aseptically. Examples of bactericidal and fungicidal agents  
5 suitable for inclusion in the drops are phenylmercuric nitrate or acetate (0.002%), benzalkonium chloride (0.01%) and chlorhexidine acetate (0.01%). Suitable solvents for the preparation of an oily solution include glycerol, diluted alcohol and propylene glycol.

Lotions according to the present invention include those  
10 suitable for application to the skin or eye. An eye lotion may comprise a sterile aqueous solution optionally containing a bactericide and may be prepared by methods similar to those for the preparation of drops. Lotions or liniments for application to the skin may also include an agent to hasten drying and to cool the skin, such as an alcohol or acetone, and/or  
15 a moisturizer such as glycerol or an oil such as castor oil or arachis oil.

Creams, ointments or pastes according to the present invention are semi-solid formulations of the active ingredient for external application. They may be made by mixing the active ingredient in finely-divided or powdered form, alone or in solution or suspension  
20 in an aqueous or non-aqueous liquid, with a greasy or non-greasy base. The base may comprise hydrocarbons such as hard, soft or liquid paraffin, glycerol, beeswax, a metallic soap; a mucilage; an oil of natural origin such as almond, corn, arachis, castor or olive oil; wool fat or its derivatives, or a fatty acid such as stearic or oleic acid together  
25 with an alcohol such as propylene glycol or macrogels. The formulation may incorporate any suitable surface active agent such as an anionic, cationic or non-ionic surfactant such as sorbitan esters or polyoxyethylene derivatives thereof. Suspending agents such as natural gums, cellulose derivatives or inorganic materials such as silicas, and other  
30 ingredients such as lanolin may also be included.



EXAMPLE 1

Step A: Preparation of N-methyl-N-methoxy-(3-trifluoro-methyl)phenyl-  
carboxamide (2) and preparation of 2-(2-Fluoropyridin-4-yl)-1-(3-  
5 trifluoromethylphenyl)-ethanone (3)

To a suspension of the N,O-dimethylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (58.2 g, 0.60 mol) in dichloromethane (1 L) at 0°C, under argon, was added 3-trifluoromethylbenzoyl chloride (104.0 g, 0.50 mol) followed by a slow addition ( $\leq +5$  °C) of triethylamine (152.3 mL, 1.09  
10 mol). The reaction was aged for 30 min. at +5 °C and then allowed to warm to room temperature. TLC (1:1, ethyl acetate / hexane) showed the reaction to be complete. The reaction was then washed with 5% aqueous citric acid (500 mL) and 5% aqueous sodium bicarbonate. The aqueous extracts were back extracted with methylene chloride (100 mL) and the  
15 combined methylene chloride extracts were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated to an oil. The oil was redissolved in toluene (2 X 100 mL) and evaporated *in vacuo* to afford the Weinreb amide (114.7 g, 98 %).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.98 (s, 1 H, Ar), 7.89 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.72 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.55 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1 H, Ar), 3.55 (s,  
20 3 H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{O}$ ), 3.39 (s, 3 H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{N}$ ).

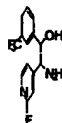
To a stirring solution of diisopropylamine (17.69 mL, 0.135 mol) in anhydrous THF (200 mL) at -78°C, under argon, was added n-butyllithium (54.0 mL, 2.5M in hexane, 0.135 mol), followed after 5 min. by a solution of 2-fluoro-4-methylpyridine (10 g, 0.090 mol) in anhydrous  
25 THF (20 mL). After stirring for 15 min. at -78°C, a solution of N-methoxy-N-methyl-3-trifluoromethylbenzamide (2) (23.08 g, 0.099 mol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was added to the reaction mixture which was then stirred for 5 min., and allowed to warm to 0°C. The reaction was quenched with water (400 mL), and extracted with ethyl acetate (3x200  
30 mL). The ethyl acetate extracts were combined, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated to an oil which was chromatographed on silica gel (1 kg), eluting with 20% ethyl acetate in hexane to give 21.6 g (85%) of the title compound.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>) d 8.25 (s, 1 H, Pyr), 8.20 (d,  $J = 5.1$  Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 8.18 (d,  $J = 9.3$  Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 7.88 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, Ar), 7.67 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.09 (d,  $J = 5.1$  Hz, 1 H, Ar), 6.86 (s, 1 H, Ar), 4.37 (s, 2 H, PyrCH<sub>2</sub>C).



5    Step B:        Preparation of 1-(2-Fluoropyridin-4-yl)-2-(3-trifluoromethylphenyl)-ethane-1,2-dione 1-oxime (4)

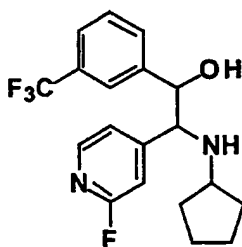
To a mixture of 2-(2-fluoropyridin-4-yl)-1-(3-trifluoromethylphenyl)ethanone (3) (10.80 g, 0.038 mol) in ethanol (200 mL), at -10°C, under argon, was added tert-butyl nitrite (5.0 mL, 0.042 mol) and  
 10    hydrochloric acid (12.2 mL, 2.5M in ethanol, 0.031 mol) dropwise while maintaining the temperature below -5°C. Upon completion of additions, the reaction was allowed to warm to RT for 2 hrs. The reaction mixture was then concentrated *in vacuo*, diluted with water (100 mL), basified with saturated sodium bicarbonate (200ml), and extracted with ethyl  
 15    acetate (3x400 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (300 mL), dried with brine (300 mL) and anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated to an oil which weighed 11.4 g (95%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) d 8.31 (s, 1 H, Ar), 8.29 (d,  $J = 5.3$  Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 8.24 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.92 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.71 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.40 (d,  $J = 5.1$  Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 7.23 (s, 1 H, Pyr).  
 20



Step C:        Preparation of 2-amino-2-(2-fluoro-pyridin-4-yl)-1-(3-trifluoromethylphenyl)-ethanol (5)

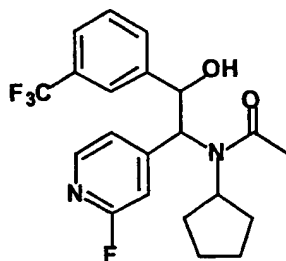
10% palladium on carbon (3.0g) was added to a solution of  
 25    the 1-(2-fluoropyridin-4-yl)-2-(3-trifluoromethylphenyl)-ethane-1,2-dione 1-oxime (4) (8.0g, 27 mmol) in ethanol (400 mL) at ambient temperature. The reaction vessel was vacuum purged with hydrogen and vigorously stirred for 10 hrs. After the reaction was complete, the solution was filtered through a pad of celite, and concentrated to give a yellow solid.

- The residue could be purified by recrystallization from methylene chloride and hexane. Alternatively, non polar impurities could be removed by filtration through silica gel starting with 5% methanol in methylene chloride to 5% methanol, 0.5% ammonium hydroxide in methylene chloride. Colorless solid (91%): mp 128-129 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 8.01 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.53 (m, 1 H, Ar), 7.49 (m, 2 H, Ar), 7.43 (s, 1 H, Ar), 7.06 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1 H, Ar), 6.86 (s, 1 H, Ar), 4.96 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1 H, CH), 4.12 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1 H, CH).



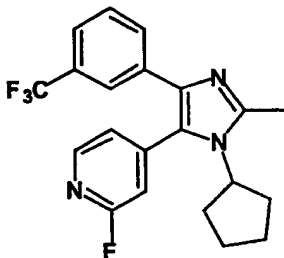
- 10 Step D: Preparation of 2-(2-(2-fluoro-pyridin-4-yl)-2-cyclopentylamino-1-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethanol (6)

- The 2-amino-2-(2-fluoro-pyridin-4-yl)-1-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethanol (5) (1.0 g, 3.3 mmol), cyclopentanone (0.42 g, 5.0 mmol), and Na(OAc)<sub>3</sub>BH (1.4 g, 6.7 mmol) in 1,2 dichloroethane (20 mL) were stirred under argon at RT for 15 hrs. The resulting mixture was treated with sat. aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (50 mL), extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 75 mL), dried (sodium sulfate), and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using 50% ethyl acetate in methylene chloride to give the title product (1.1 g, 92%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.05 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.32 (s, 1 H, Ar), 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1 H, Ar), 6.81 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 6.64 (s, 1 H, Pyr), 5.00 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1 H, PhCHOH), 4.01 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1 H, CHCHNH), 2.99 (quin, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1 H, CH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.85 - 1.25 (m, 8 H, CH<sub>2</sub>).



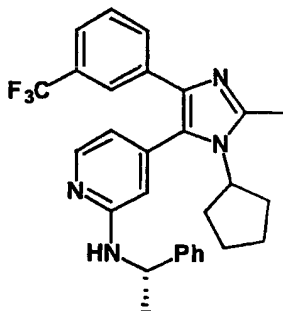
Step E: Preparation of 2-(2-fluoro-pyridin-4-yl)-2-(N-acetylcyclopentylamino)-1-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethanol (8):

A stirred solution of 2-(2-fluoro-pyridin-4-yl)-2-cyclopentylamino-1-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethanol (6) (1.0 g, 2.7 mmol) and diisopropylamine (0.95 mL, 5.4 mmol) in methylene chloride (10 mL) was placed under argon and cooled to -10°C. Acetyl chloride (0.21 mL, 3.0 mmol) in methylene chloride (1.0 mL) was slowly added to the reaction mixture. After 2 hrs, ethyl acetate was added (200 mL) followed by aqueous citric acid (50 mL of a 10% solution). The organic layer was then washed with aqueous sodium bicarbonate (50 mL of a sat. solution) and water (50 mL), dried (sodium sulfate), filtered, and concentrated. The crude residue was passed through a pad of silica gel (50% ethyl acetate in hexane) to remove minor impurities, and taken to the next step. Colorless oil (95%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.54 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 7.49 (m, 4 H, Ar), 6.81 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 6.72 (s, 1 H, Pyr), 5.63 (s, 1 H, OH), 5.46 (s, 1 H, PhCHOH), 4.34 (s, 1 H, CHCHN), 4.16 (m, 1 H, CH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.32 (s, 3 H, COCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.90 (m, 1 H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.60 (m, 7 H, CH<sub>2</sub>).



Step F: Preparation of 1-cyclopentyl-5-(2-fluoro-pyridin-4-yl)-2-methyl-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-1H-imidazole (9)

- Oxalyl chloride (0.53 mL, 6.1 mmol) was added to a solution of dimethyl sulfoxide (0.52 mL, 7.3 mmol) in methylene chloride (10 mL) at -78 °C. After 20 min., 2-(2-fluoro-pyridin-4-yl)-2-(N-acetyl-cyclopentyl-amino)-1-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethanol (8) (1.0 g, 2.4 mmol) in methylene chloride (1.0 mL) was added and the reaction solution was stirred at -78 °C for 2 hrs. Triethylamine (1.7 mL, 12.2 mmol) was added and the cooling bath was removed. The solution was diluted with ethyl acetate (150 mL), washed with aqueous ammonium chloride (75 mL) and brine (75 mL), dried (sodium sulfate), and concentrated to give the ketone. This ketone was then transferred to a flask containing anhydrous ammonium trifluoroacetate (4 g) using a minimum amount of ether-methylene chloride. The mixture was placed under vacuum to remove the solvent, and then placed in a preheated oil bath (150°C). Once all solid had melted and efficient stirring was achieved (approx. 10 min.) the formation of the imidazole was found to be complete. The heating bath was removed and the solids were partitioned between ethyl acetate and water (150 / 50 mL). The organic layer was dried (sodium sulfate), filtered, and concentrated. The product was purified by silica gel chromatography using 75 % ethyl acetate in methylene chloride.
- Colorless solid (53%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.32 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 7.71 (s, 1 H, Ar), 7.42 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H, Ar), 7.13 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 6.88 (s, 1 H, Pyr), 4.30 (quin, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1 H, CH), 2.62 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.09 - 1.62 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>).



Step G: Preparation of 1-(S)-phenyl-N-{4-[3-cyclopentyl-2-methyl-5-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-3H-imidazol-4-yl]-pyridin-2-yl}-ethylamine (10) (L-845,722)

A stirred solution of 1-cyclopentyl-5-(2-fluoro-pyridin-4-yl)-2-methyl-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-1H-imidazole (9) (0.25 g, 0.64 mmol) in S-(-)-α-methylbenzylamine (0.78 g, 6.4 mmol) was heated at 150°C for 15 hrs. The heating bath was removed and the contents of the flask were partitioned between ethyl acetate (100 mL) and pH 4.5 buffer (50 mL composed of 10% citric acid that was treated with 10 N sodium hydroxide to achieve a pH of 4.5). The organic layer was dried (sodium sulfate), filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography to yield the desired product (73%). White foam: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 7.76 (s, 1 H, Ar), 7.38 - 7.19 (m, 8 H, Ar), 6.49 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1 H, Pyr), 5.17 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1 H, NH), 4.61 (quin, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1 H, CH<sub>2</sub>CHN), 4.07 (q, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1 H, PhCHCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.53 (s, 3 H, NCCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.54 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3 H, PhCHCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.82 - 1.44 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>).

## 20 BIOLOGICAL ASSAYS

### Lipopolysaccharide mediated production of cytokines

Human peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC) are isolated from fresh human blood according to the procedure of Chin and Kostura, *J. Immunol.* **151**, 5574-5585 (1993). Whole blood is collected by sterile venipuncture into 60 mL syringes coated with 1.0 mL of sodium- heparin (Upjohn, 1000 U/ mL) and diluted 1:1 in Hanks Balanced Salt Solution (Gibco). The erythrocytes are separated from the PBMC's by centrifugation on a Ficoll-Hypaque lymphocyte separation media. The PBMC's are washed three times in Hanks Balanced Salt Solution and then resuspended to a final concentration of  $2 \times 10^6$  cell/ mL in RPMI containing 10% fresh autologous human serum, penicillin streptomycin (10 U/ mL) and 0.05% DMSO. Lipopolysaccharide (Salmonella type Re545; Sigma Chemicals) is added to the cells to a final concentration of 100 ng/ mL. An aliquot (0.1 mL) of the cells is quickly dispensed into each well of a 96 well plate containing 0.1 mL of the test compound, at the appropriate dilution, and are incubated for 24 hours. at

37°C in 5% CO<sub>2</sub> . At the end of the culture period, cell culture supernatants are assayed for IL-1b , TNF-a, IL-6 and PGE<sub>2</sub> production using specific ELISA.

#### IL-1 mediated cytokine production

- 5 Human peripheral blood mononuclear cells are isolated from fresh human blood according to the procedure of Chin and Kostura, *J. Immunol.* **151**, 5574-5585 (1993). Whole blood is collected by sterile venipuncture into 60 mL syringes coated with 1.0 mL of sodium- heparin (Upjohn, 1000 U/ mL) and diluted 1:1 in Hanks Balanced Salt Solution (Gibco). The erythrocytes are separated from the PBMC's by centrifugation on a Ficoll-Hypaque lymphocyte separation media. The PBMC's are washed three times in Hanks Balanced Salt Solution and then resuspended to a final concentration of  $2 \times 10^6$  cell/mL in RPMI containing 10% fresh autologous human serum, penicillin streptomycin (10 U/ mL) and 0.05% DMSO. Endotoxin free recombinant human IL-1b is then added to a final concentration of 50 pMolar. An aliquot (0.1 mL) of the cells is quickly dispensed into each well of a 96 well plate containing 0.1 mL of the compound at the appropriate dilution. and are incubated for 24 hours. at 37°C in 5% CO<sub>2</sub> . At the end of the culture period, cell culture supernatants are assayed for TNF-a, IL-6 and PGE<sub>2</sub> synthesis using specific ELISA..

20

#### Determination of IL-1b , TNF-a, IL-6 and prostanoid production from LPS or IL-1 stimulated PBMC's

#### IL-1b ELISA

- 25 Human IL-1b can be detected in cell-culture supernatants or whole blood with the following specific trapping ELISA. Ninety-six well plastic plates (Immulon 4; Dynatech) are coated for 12 hours at 4°C with 1 mg/ mL protein-A affinity chromatography purified mouse anti-human IL-1b monoclonal antibody (purchased as an ascites preparation from LAO Enterprise, Gaithersburg Maryland.) diluted in Dulbecco's phosphate-buffered saline (-MgCl<sub>2</sub>, -CaCl<sub>2</sub>). The plates are washed with PBS-Tween (Kirkegaard and Perry) then blocked with 1% BSA diluent and blocking solution (Kirkegaard and Perry) for 60 minutes at room temperature followed by washing with PBS Tween. IL-1b standards are prepared from purified recombinant IL-1b produced from *E. coli*. The highest concentration begins at 10

- ng/ mL followed by 11 two-fold serial dilutions. For detection of IL-1b from cell culture supernatants or blood plasma, 10 - 25 mL of supernatant is added to each test well with 75-90 mL of PBS Tween. Samples are incubated at room temperature for
- 5 2 hours then washed 6 times with PBS Tween on an automated plate washer (Dennly). Rabbit anti-human IL-1b polyclonal antisera diluted 1:500 in PBS-Tween is added to the plate and incubated for 1 hour at room temperature followed by six washes with PBS-Tween. Detection
- 10 of bound rabbit anti-IL-1b IgG is accomplished with Fab' fragments of Goat anti-rabbit IgG-horseradish peroxidase conjugate (Accurate Scientific) diluted 1:10,000 in PBS-Tween. Peroxidase activity was determined using TMB peroxidase substrate kit (Kirkegaard and Perry) with quantitation of color intensity on a 96-well plate Molecular Devices spectrophotometer set to determine absorbance at 450 nM. Samples are evaluated using a standard curve of absorbance versus concentration.
- 15 Four-parameter logistics analysis generally is used to fit data and obtain concentrations of unknown compounds.



### TNF-a ELISA

Immulon 4 (Dynatech) 96-well plastic plates are coated with a 0.5 mg/ mL solution of mouse anti-human TNF-a monoclonal antibody. The secondary antibody is a 1:2500 dilution of a rabbit anti-human TNF-a polyclonal serum purchased from Genzyme. All other operations are identical to those described above for IL-1b. The standards are prepared in PBS-Tween + 10% FBS or HS. Eleven 2 fold dilutions are made beginning at 20 ng/ mL TNF-a.

### IL-6 ELISA

Levels of secreted human IL-6 are also determined by specific trapping ELISA as described previously in Chin and Kostura, *J. Immunol.* 151, 5574-5585 (1993). (Dynatech) ELISA plates are coated with mouse anti-human IL-6 monoclonal antibody diluted to 0.5 mg/ mL in PBS. The secondary antibody, a rabbit anti-human IL-6 polyclonal antiserum, is diluted 1:5000 with PBS-Tween. All other operations are identical to those described above for IL-1b. The standards are prepared in PBS-Tween + 10% FBS or HS. Eleven 2 fold dilutions are made beginning at 50 ng/ mL IL-6.

### PGE<sub>2</sub> production

Prostaglandin E2 is detected in cell culture supernatants from LPS or IL-1 stimulated PBMC's using a commercially available enzyme immunoassay . The assay purchased from the Cayman Chemical (Catalogue number 514010) and is run exactly according to the manufacturers instructions.

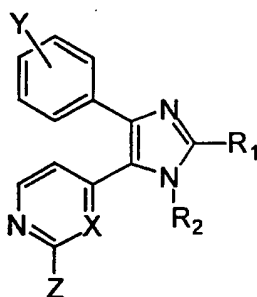
### Interleukin8 (IL-8)

The present compounds can also be assayed for IL-8 inhibitory activity as discussed below. Primary human umbilical cord endothelial cells (HUVEC) (Cell Systems, Kirland, Wa) are maintained in culture medium supplemented with 15% fetal bovine serum and 1% CS-HBGF consisting of aFGF and heparin. The cells are then diluted 20-fold before being plated (250 µl) into gelatin coated 96-well plates. Prior to use, culture medium is replaced with fresh medium (200µl). Buffer or test compound (25µl, at appropriate concentrations) is then added to each well in quadruplicate wells and the plates incubated for

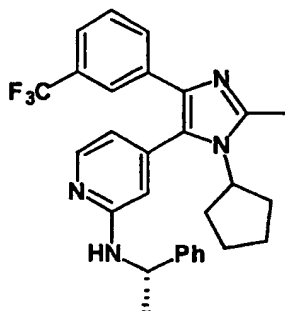
6h in a humidified incubator at 37°C in an atmosphere of 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. At the end of the incubation period, supernatant is removed and assayed for IL-8 concentration using an IL-8 ELISA kit obtained from R&D Systems (Minneapolis, MN). All data is presented as mean value (ng/ mL) of multiple  
5 samples based on the standard curve. IC<sub>50</sub> values where appropriate are generated by non-linear regression analysis.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound represented by formula I:



- 5 wherein  
 $R_1$  is C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;  
 $R_2$  is H, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl, OC<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or C(O)C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;  
 $R_3$  is H, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl, OC<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or C(O)C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl,  
 10 or aralkyl;  
 X is C or N;  
 Y is H, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, CN or CF<sub>3</sub>;  
 Z is NHR<sub>3</sub> or F;
- 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable addition salt and/or hydrate thereof, or where applicable, a geometric or optical isomer or racemic mixture thereof.
2. A compound as defined in claim 1 wherein  $R_2$  is C<sub>3-8</sub>  
 20 cycloalkyl.
3. A compound represented by the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable addition salt and/or hydrate thereof, or where applicable, a geometric or optical isomer or racemic mixture thereof.

5

4. A pharmaceutical composition which is comprised of a compound in accordance with claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10

5. A pharmaceutical composition which is produced by combining a compound in accordance with claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15

6. A method of treating a cytokine mediated disease in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammalian patient in need of such treatment an amount of a compound as described in claim 1 in an amount which is effective to treat said cytokine mediated disease.

20

7. A method of treating inflammation in a mammalian patient in need of such treatment, which is comprised of administering to said patient an anti-inflammatory effective amount of a compound as described in claim 1.

25

8. A method in accordance with claim 6 wherein the cytokine mediated disease is rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, endotoxemia, toxic shock syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease, tuberculosis, atherosclerosis, muscle degeneration, cachexia, psoriatic

arthritis, Reiter's syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis, gout, traumatic arthritis, rubella arthritis or acute synovitis.

9. A method in accordance with claim 6 wherein  
5 the cytokine mediated disease is rheumatoid arthritis, rheumatoid  
spondylitis, osteoarthritis, gouty arthritis, sepsis, septic shock, endotoxic  
shock, gram negative sepsis, toxic shock syndrome, adult respiratory  
distress syndrome, cerebral malaria, chronic pulmonary inflammatory  
disease, silicosis, pulmonary sarcosis, bone resorption diseases,  
10 reperfusion injury, graft v. host rejection, allograft rejection, fever,  
myalgia due to infection, cachexia secondary to infection or malignancy,  
cachexia secondary to acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS),  
AIDS related complex (ARC), keloid formation,  
scar tissue formation, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis or pyresis.

15

10. A method of treating osteoporosis in a mammalian  
patient in need of such treatment, which is comprised of administering to  
said patient an amount of a compound as described in claim 1 which is  
effective to treat osteoporosis.

20

11. A method of treating bone resorption in a mammalian  
patient in need of such treatment, which is comprised of administering to  
said patient an amount of a compound as described in claim 1 which is  
effective to treat bone resorption.

25

12. A method of treating Crohn's disease in a mammalian  
patient in need of such treatment which is comprised of administering to  
said patient an amount of a compound as described in claim 1 which is  
effective to treat Crohn's disease.

30

13. A process for making a pharmaceutical composition  
comprising combining a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically  
acceptable carrier.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US99/16996

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) : C07D 401/04, 403/04; A61K 31/44, 31/505

US CL : 546/274.1; 544/331; 514/275, 256, 341

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 546/274.1; 544/331; 514/275, 256, 341

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
NONEElectronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
CAS ONLINE

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Database CAPLUS on STN (Columbus, OH, USA ), No. 127:34213, HAGIWARA et al. "Preparation of pyridylimidazole compounds as agrochemical fungicides", Jpn. Kokai Tokkyo Koho, 14 pp, abstract, 21 July 1997.	1

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
 ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents: *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *B* earlier document published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art *Z* document member of the same patent family
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

15 NOVEMBER 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

30 NOV 1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US  
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PARALEGAL SPECIALIST  
CHEMICAL MATRIX

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US99/16996

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

Please See Extra Sheet.

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US99/16996

## BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION WAS LACKING

This ISA found multiple inventions as follows:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid.

Group I, claim(s) 3 and claims 1-2, 4-13 ( all in part, X=C ), drawn to pyridines.

Group II, claim(s) 1-2, 4-13 ( all in part, X=N ), drawn to pyrimidines.

The inventions listed as Groups I,II do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: claimed pyridines have other use ( note CA 127: 34213, being fungicides) besides the claimed cytokine mediated diseases.